



MORINVILLE'S Monday Morning News

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RCMP looking for impaired drivers

By Stephen Dafoe

With Albertans getting into the holiday spirit this month, RCMP are hoping they don't consume too many spirits, at least not if they plan to get behind the wheel.

Morinville RCMP Staff Sergeant Mac Richards said members of his detachment, provincial sheriffs and the traffic services unit will be conducting check stops and random patrols throughout the month of December, actively looking for impaired drivers.

"There's really no date, no time, no location, but suffice to say we will be doing the big check stops people see and a roving patrol," Richards said. "At any time you can expect to see a police car in your review mirror."

The detachment has good reason to ramp up its search for impaired drivers. Provincial statistics show that from 2003 to 2007 an average of 115 people were killed and another 1,920 were injured each year in collisions involving at least one driver who had consumed alcohol prior to the crash.

Staff Sergeant Richards said the Morinville RCMP Detachment laid 119 drinking and driving-related charges from January to November of this year.

Provincially, approximately 7,700 people are convicted of impaired driving in Alberta each year and roughly 8,300 24-hour driving suspensions are issued annually. That number includes those whose driving police suspect has been physically or mentally impaired by alcohol, drugs or other substances.

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Constable Scott Cairney displays a roadside testing unit the RCMP will use in their efforts to curb impaired drivers.

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MORINVILLE'S Monday Morning Expert

Joel Chevalier, B.A., B.Ed.

Ensure your legacy's used for what you intend

Have you ever thought about how your beneficiaries will receive their inheritance, as opposed to how much they will receive? Are you comfortable with them receiving a large lump sum all at one time with no conditions attached? Will they be mature enough to handle the proceeds? Will all of the intended beneficiaries receive their inheritance if you are in a blended family? These are issues that can generally be addressed with a testamentary trust.

Briefly, here is how a testamentary trust works:

The trust is established in your last Will and testament. It does not come into existence until the date of your death.

The trust is a separate taxpayer, so it will file its own tax return and, therefore, the income may be taxed at a lower rate than if received by the beneficiary directly.

You must appoint a trustee of the trust, who may (but need not be) the Executor of your Estate, and who can either be a trusted individual, or perhaps even a corporate trustee.

The terms of the trust can provide when your beneficiaries will receive their inheritance, or it can give the trustees complete discretion as to when to payout the funds.

Here are a few examples of when you might consider using a testamentary trust:

If you have minor children and you do not want them to receive their entire inheritance at age 18 or 19. If there are no conditions placed on their inheritance, they will be entitled to the funds once they attain the age of majority.

If you are in a second marriage, and you want to leave your assets to your second spouse so that he or she can use them for so long as they are alive. Upon your spouse's death, the assets will revert back to your children from a previous marriage and not go to the children or heirs of your second spouse. (If you do not put any conditions on the inheritance you leave to your second spouse, they will be free to leave the assets to whomever they choose, which may or

may not include your children.)

If you have a child who qualifies for social assistance due to a disability, it may be better to leave the monies for them held in trust so that the receipt of these proceeds does not jeopardize their ability to receive social assistance. The rules regarding this type of planning differ between the jurisdictions, so be sure to consult with us to review your financial planning options.

If you have heirs who are in a high income tax bracket and who want to minimize tax. (If the inheritance is received by them directly, they will have to pay tax on the income at their high marginal rate.) When the proceeds are instead left to them in trust, the amount of tax paid on the income can be minimized.

The uses of testamentary trusts are varied, and in some cases, the issues can be complicated. Be sure to speak with us to ensure that you are leaving your inheritance in a way that is designed to achieve your desired objectives and minimize tax at the same time.

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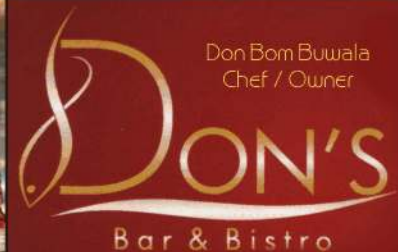


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Impaired Continued from Page 1

Provincial statistics suggest one in five drivers involved in fatal collisions were drinking prior to the collision and one in 20 injured in collisions were impaired at the time of the accident.

With the high probability of injury and fatality, Richards and the other members of his detachment are hoping people get the message through the many channels it is distributed at this time of year.

"A lot of the time there is so much emphasis on this month that people get the message," he said. "It's definitely in the forefront, not only from the police's side in press releases, but community groups' press releases."

Richards said it is important

for those looking to celebrate the season to take steps to make sure they get home safely.

"The first thing the public can do for us is plan ahead," he said. "If you're going to be consuming alcohol, plan before you get there how you're going to get home because sometimes cabs are tough to get, depending on the time of day. If you've already made those plans before you leave, it reduces the temptation to drink and drive."

But Richards said the public can also be of assistance in reporting drivers they suspect may be impaired. The RCMP have had great success in 2010 in catching impaired drivers, partly due to the assistance of the public reporting potential impaired drivers.

MORINVILLE'S Monday Morning Challenge




Where is it located?

This old time spinning wheel EXHIBITS all the great memories of Christmases gone by. Do you know where in Morinville it is located. If not turn to page 14 for the answer.

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MORINVILLE'S
Monday Morning Editorial

A tale of two Christmas lists

Christmas is coming and June and Tyler both have their lists to make.

Tyler, being eight, has a list not unlike many boys his age. It's the list of items he is hoping Santa will give him the OK on and drop down his chimney Christmas Eve.

June, being 32, a single mom and working two part time jobs, has a different kind of list. It's a list made up of all the things she has to pay for in December to ensure that she, Tyler and Tyler's baby sister Meagan have a roof over their head, clothes on their backs and food in their bellies.

Tyler's list has been getting a little longer. After all, he's made a strong effort to be a good boy this year. He's made sure his little sister was quite while mom took a nap between jobs and before the babysitter arrived for the night. He's helped clean up after dinner and did his homework every night. Just like his mom asked.

June's list has been getting a little longer, too. Her licence plate sticker is due for renewal in a few days, the cold weather has beefed up the gas bill a little higher this month and the prescription she had to get last week has put another dent in an already depleted bank account. Faced with the fact the store she works at on Main Street has had to cut back on hours at a time when she'd been hoping there would be a little overtime, June realizes that there is just no way she can buy Tyler even one of the items on his Santa list, let alone all of them. Not if she wants to stay current on her financial obligations to her landlord, Epcor, Telus and the other bills that arrive each month.

She looks up from her notepad budget containing numbers she's calculated and recalculated a half dozen times in the hopes of finding a few dollars to buy her children something, anything, but the harsh reality is there is nothing left over and, frankly, barely enough to provide the basic necessities of life. June wonders how she'll explain to her children, who both have been well behaved,

that Santa passed them by this year.

June wonders where her Santa is. After all, she's been a good girl this year herself. She's worked hard at both her jobs while keeping an eye and ear open for better opportunities to provide for her children. She's spent every free moment with the children, ensuring that they do their best in school so that they will hopefully never have to struggle to make ends meet as she has.

The June, Tyler and Meagan in this editorial are characters of my own imagination, but the harsh reality is Morinville has many Junes, many Tylers and many Meagans. They're families of hard working people who are struggling to make ends meet.

At this time of year we all feel compelled to give to the needy, as clichéd as that may sound, but too often we envision the needy as strictly the down and out. We forget there may be those people who serve us our coffee in the morning or pump our gas at night who may be wondering just how they are going to give their child a present this Christmas.

For \$40, you can help a family provide two gifts for their child. The Midstream Support Society opens its Santa Store this week, an annual venue whereby a parent who may otherwise have no resources to buy their children a gift can select one major and one minor gift for their child.

They accept toys, but they also accept cash that can be used to purchase toys for the age groups already on the list. And there are already 250 pre-registered. These economic times have taken a toll on our community and that community includes your friends and neighbours.

We hope you will consider giving a donation to the Midstream Support Society's Santa Store this year.

For more information on how you can help, contact Linda Krauskopf at 780-939-5035.

Stephen Dafoe, editor



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THE **Art** OF
Conversation
MORINVILLE

Santa Store helps put a smile on children's faces

By Stephen Dafoe

Midstream Support Society volunteers are busy this week getting their annual Santa Store ready to open Wednesday. The store, located in the Community Corner Drop In on 101 Street, provides parents who are struggling to find a way to provide their children with Christmas gifts a way to do so.

Midstream Support Society board member Linda Krauskopf said there are certain days of the week where parents registered for the program can come into the Santa Store and get two presents for their children, gifts valued at a total of approximately \$40.

"They get a major gift and a minor gift and they get to pick them out for the child," Krauskopf said. "They know what their children need and they'll get what they need."

Krauskopf said there is no charge to the parent. All gifts and cash for gifts are donated by the public, either brought directly to the Santa Store or collected in bins set up around town by the Knights of Columbus and those collected through RV City's toy hauler program.

But while the Santa Store will have plenty of toys on the shelf when it opens later this week, Krauskopf and her fellow society members are concerned just how well they will be able to meet this year's demands in the long term.

Despite donation locations set up throughout town, there never seems to be quite enough gifts for the children the store seeks to provide for, particularly teenagers.

"A lot of people buy for younger kids because it's a lot easier to buy a cute little Barbie doll," Krauskopf said, adding there is also a shortage of gifts for children under the age of 10. "Two years ago we had 146 kids. Last year we had 177 kids, and this year we figure at least 250. If it's more than 250, we're in big trouble."

She attributes the increase in need to the downturn in the economy. Many of the Santa Store's customers are single working parents who have seen their wages frozen, their hours cut, and the



Al Schafer of RV City hands Midstream Support Society Board of director Linda Krauskopf one of the toys his company has been collecting for the Santa Store. The local RV dealer will be collecting items for the store until Dec. 17.

overtime of a few years ago eliminated altogether.

Krauskopf is quick to point out the people who use the Santa Store are not people who are down and out but people who are working hard at making ends meet, finding little left in the budget after basic necessities to be able to provide gifts for their children.

"I think Morinville doesn't realize how many children are actually out there that are in need," she said, adding people are more familiar with the needs of the food bank. "The people that we're looking after don't use the food bank, don't go through the food bank, because they're working parents and they don't need the food bank. It's Christmas that does them in. They're covering everything else. Christmas time is the rough time."

It is a segment of Morinville society that Krauskopf and her fellow Midstream

Support Society members and volunteers are passionate about helping.

"I want to help the person that's helping themselves, instead of them thinking, 'I'm working my butt off and I can't make ends meet and I can't give my kids a good Christmas,'" she said. "Let's give those people that little extra to show we are really impressed that you are trying to do something - you are trying to work your way and support yourselves. We understand you have this little hill [to go over]."

The Santa Store works in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus' Christmas Hamper program. Any gifts left over from the store are given to the Knights of Columbus to be used in their program.

Krauskopf said people looking to help or looking to be helped can visit the Santa Store or call her at 780-939-5035 for more information on specific needs and requirements.

**"Charity sees the need not the cause."
- German Proverb**

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MORINVILLE'S Monday Morning Culture

Museum exhibit mixes art and history

By MMN Staff

Built to last is an exhibition of Cibachrome prints of vintage vehicles by Calgary photographer Mark Vitaris.

The Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition program exhibit is part of a larger series of images Vitaris has developed since 1986, when he began working with the subject of his photos during travels throughout North America and Europe. With the assistance of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Vitaris established a national tour of 36 photographs from the series in 2000.

The images range in content from landscapes to detailed close-ups revealing design elements that have stood the test of time. As Vitaris has expressed in his artist statement for the exhibition:

"Formerly icons of freedom and prosperity they remain in this world long past their

usefulness, eyesores to most that pass by. But when the quality of light is just right they can sparkle like diamonds and shimmer like gold, affording the inquisitive eye and wandering mind a treasure chest of dreams. They were built to last, and last they have."

Vitaris' *Built to Last* exhibit will be on display at the Musée Morinville Museum until the end of December and can be viewed during the museum's normal hours of operation Wednesday to Saturday from noon to 5 p.m.

Musée Morinville Museum Operations Attendant Donna Garrett admires one of the Cibachrome prints in the *Built to Last* exhibit now on display at the Museum.



S. Dafoe Photo

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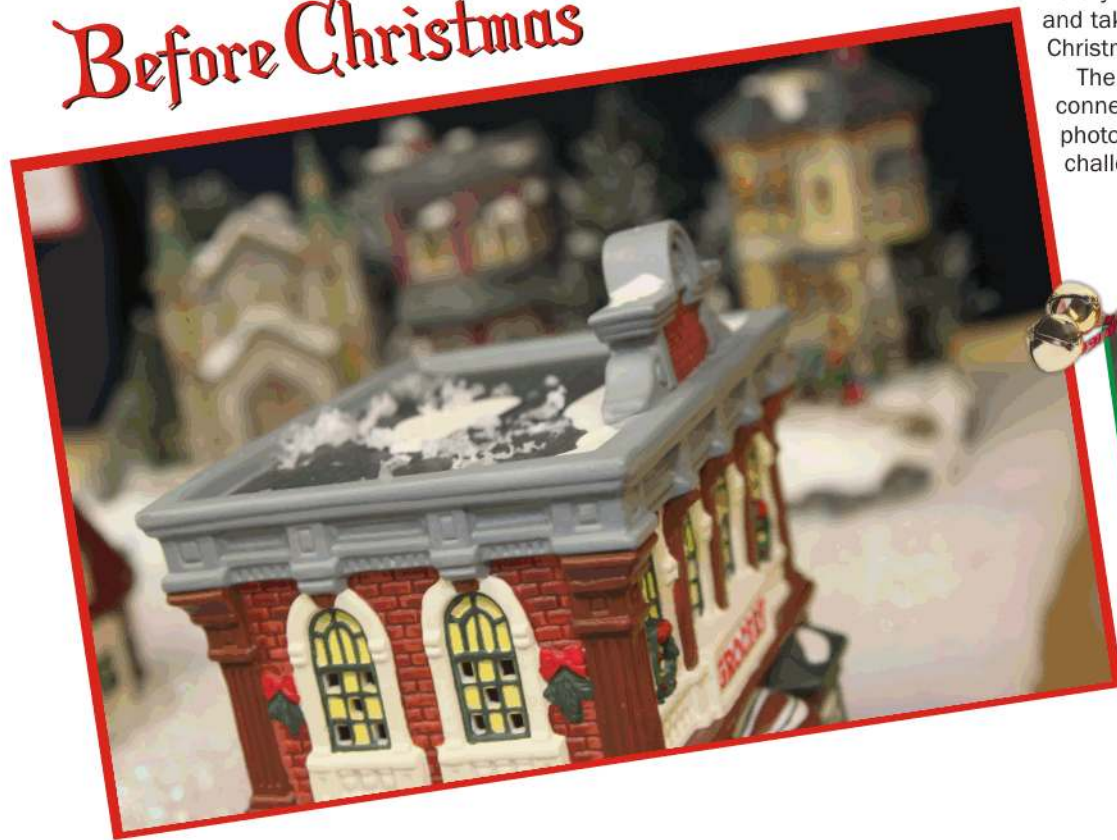


*'Twas the Night
Before Christmas*

The Morinville Public Library has recreated the classic Christmas poem 'Twas the Night Before Christmas throughout the library in a series of stand alone displays. Each of the nine displays presents a visual representation of passages from the holiday favourite.

Library staff are hoping residents will stop by and take a look at the displays and enjoy the Christmas sentiments therein contained.

The library is also holding a contest connected to the display, showing a close up photo of different items in the library and challenging visitors to find the object.



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Dakota Adams (left) and Jorja Chevalier (right) work their way towards the net during a FunTeam Hockey game Saturday morning.

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By Stephen Dafoe

It's an early Saturday morning at the Ray McDonald Sports Centre and the bleachers are full of parents and grandparents watching children play hockey. But what sets the players on the ice apart from many other teams that will occupy the rink that day is the range of ages and genders playing together on the ice.

FunTeam Hockey, now in its fourth season in Morinville, offers area children and their parents an option to the time and financial commitments that are, of necessity, a part of minor hockey.

Tim Quinn, one of the program's volunteer coaches, said FunTeam Hockey runs from 8:15 a.m. to 10 a.m. every Saturday morning and that the time is divided between 45 minutes of skill building and a full hour of game time.

It is a recipe that has drawn increased numbers of families to the table this year, each looking to dine on what FunTeam is dishing up - hockey skills, plenty of ice time, new friendships and - most important of all - plenty of fun.

Quinn attributes the program's success to Ray and Christa Meunier who had the

foresight to start the program four years ago and who remain active in FunTeam Hockey along with the program's other dedicated volunteer parents who are actively involved in coaching and other supportive rolls.

The long-time advocate of the program said there were some growing pains this season as the program tried to figure out how best to handle the 40-some children that signed up to participate this year.

"The coaches got together and we came up with a solution to divide them into two divisions," Quinn said, adding the program's goal is to give participants plenty of ice time. "I think we've accomplished that. Moving forward, as the program grows; we're considering two ice slots."

Quinn said doing so would not take away from one of the program's charms - having a wide range of age groups of both male and female players on the ice. "We still have a pretty big spread," Quinn said, noting the older division includes ages 10-15 and the younger group includes children aged four to nine. "You're still getting a pretty good spread."

Quinn said one of the early challenges facing the program was overcoming the misconception that the program wasn't real

hockey.

"We don't keep score, but you can ask any one of them what the score was in the game and they can tell you," he said, adding new jerseys were purchased for the team this year, something that has given the players even greater pride in what they are doing. "We're trying to create a team atmosphere. That's the bottom line. We did get that comment the last year or couple of years that it isn't real hockey. It is real hockey. It's simply real hockey without the travel."

One FunTeam veteran is Quinn's 14-year-old son Riley who has been with the team for a few years now. "I love it; it's really good," Riley said, adding he enjoys the lack of travel involved.

"It's easier to just come here every morning rather than having to go three hours over there. The other thing is you're with the same people every week. Even though it is competitive, it's still with your friends rather than people you don't know."

The junior Quinn recommends it to other young people interested in playing hockey.

"I'd say give it a try because it's really fun," he said. "You learn a lot about hockey here."



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Rate payers to see 3.5 per cent tax increase

By Stephen Dafoe

Morinville ratepayers can expect to see a 3.5 per cent increase to their 2011 property taxes and an additional 2 per cent increase to their monthly water and sewer bills in the New Year.

Based on the average home in Morinville being in the \$300,000 range, the impact on ratepayers is believed to be \$80 per year.

The across-the-board 2 per cent increase in water and sewer rates is believed to represent an average per household increase of \$22 per year.

The combined impact of the budgetary increase would be \$102 per year.

Morinville Mayor Lloyd Bertschi said he was pleased with the 2011 budget and an increase substantially less than some neighbouring municipalities are facing.

"We've had those big shocks a few years ago," Bertschi said. "We had a couple years in a row where we were 8 per cent. Sometimes you need to have a couple of years of corrections. As I said during the campaign, I think our days of having these big massive corrections to get caught up are behind us. I think very clearly the staff did a great job here."

Bertschi said the 3.5 per cent increase covers a 2.5 per cent increase in municipal operations and a 1 per cent increase to fund the Morinville Public Library, whose 2011 budget sought an increase in Morinville's contribution from \$140,285 to \$208,901.

"I'm not a big fan of giving people 50 per cent increases like that, even though they've been traditionally underfunded," Bertschi said. "But by the same token, I was glad we were able to do it. But it does impact one full per cent to the taxes. So for a municipal operation at two-and-a-half per cent; that's about the cost of living in the province, which I anticipated we could do. So I'm really happy with that."

After two days of discussions, Morinville Town Council has now gone through the draft 2011 budget, removing some items and adding others to arrive at a budget that, on paper, shows \$182,916 going into the Town's reserves.

The budget as presented to Morinville Town Council Tuesday afternoon showed an estimated \$402,084 deficit after the 3.5 per cent tax increase; however, after council deliberations on each of the proposed items, additions and deletions changed the financial picture.

The first item to be removed was a proposed \$315,000 capital works project to re-circulate water used at the Morinville Splash Park. Council heard that 16,000 cubic metres of splash park water now goes directly into the sewer system at an annual cost of approximately \$10,000 per year. Council directed administration to investigate the possibility of finding a way to store the water for use in watering plants and other non-potable applications.

Another \$300,000 was taken out of the budget for a proposed retrofit of the Civic Centre and Morinville Public Library. With the Community Cultural Centre opening in 2011, there is a plan to move the Town's Community Services Department to the new facility and to move the tax department to the upper floor of Germaine Plaza. This would open up additional space on the lower level for an expansion of the Morinville Public Library.

Originally included in the draft budget as a 2011 capital project, the proposed \$3 million retrofit would have consisted of \$500,000 in grant money and a \$2.5 million debenture.

Council have agreed to put off the \$2.5 million debenture and to remove \$300,000 from the \$500,000 component, using the balance for architectural design and some of the initial work needed in the 40-year-old civic centre.

Another item removed from the budget

was \$100,000 earmarked for a long-range technology plan for Morinville. Councillor Ben Van De Walle, who has long advocated the need for a technology review, spoke in favour of deferring the project for another year.

The \$715,000 in budgetary trimmings put the budget in a \$312,916 surplus situation. Council agreed to hang on to \$100,000 of that money as a contingency plan should the Town of Morinville be unsuccessful in obtaining a \$200,000 federal grant for Morinville's upcoming centennial celebrations.

An additional \$30,000 was added to the budget to install an aerator on Sunshine Lake to help control algae in the summer. The draft budget originally called for the installation of an aerator only on the Fish and Game Club's pond.

The \$60,000 expenditure for the two pond aerators is one of 30 capital projects planned for 2011, projects that will cost approximately \$8 million.

The lion's share of capital project funding will go towards paving 107 Street to the Fish and Game Club (\$2 million) and renovations to Morinville's south pump house (\$2.8 million). Both capital projects will be funded by a combination of provincial grants, developer contributions and, in the case of the pump house, municipal reserves.

Other capital projects include extending the street lights on 100 Street, burying power lines behind the high school and cultural centre, the purchase of portable commercial scales to assist traffic enforcement and the installation of a new scoreboard at the arena and message centre for the cultural centre.

The revised budget will be brought before Morinville Town Council for first reading Dec. 7. It is anticipated second reading will take place Dec. 14 with third reading Dec. 21. Council may opt to give second and third reading at its Dec. 14 meeting.



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The week at a glance in Morinville

Monday Morning Calendar

Monday Dec. 6

Floor curling

The Morinville Senior's Rendez-Vous Centre holds floor curling Mondays and Fridays at 1 p.m.

Quilting club

The Morinville Public Library will host its Loose Threads quilting club tonight at 6 p.m.

Tuesday Dec. 7

Council meeting

Morinville Town Council meets tonight at 7:30 p.m.

Princess and the pea play

Morinville Community High School begins its production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Once Upon a Mattress. Performances will be held Tuesday through Friday at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and are available from the high school and Sobeys. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Dec. 8

Rotary meets

Morinville Rotary Club meeting at 7 a.m. at Don's Bistro on 100 Avenue.

Library clubs Christmas Party

Knit Wits, Loose Threads and book club members will gather at the Morinville Public Library tonight at 7 p.m. for a Christmas party.



Thursday Dec. 9

Al-Anon

Al-Anon meets at the Morinville Baptist Church at 8 p.m. Call 780-433-1818 for more information.

Résumé writing workshop

Career Employment and Counselling Services will be holding a Résumé Writing Workshop. Learn the dos and don'ts of résumé and cover letter writing and create a package that will make employers say "Wow". For more information contact CECS at 780-9392353.

Friday Dec. 10

Titans game

The Morinville Titans take on the Wabumun Wings tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Ray McDonald Sports Centre.

Saturday Dec. 11

Headline news

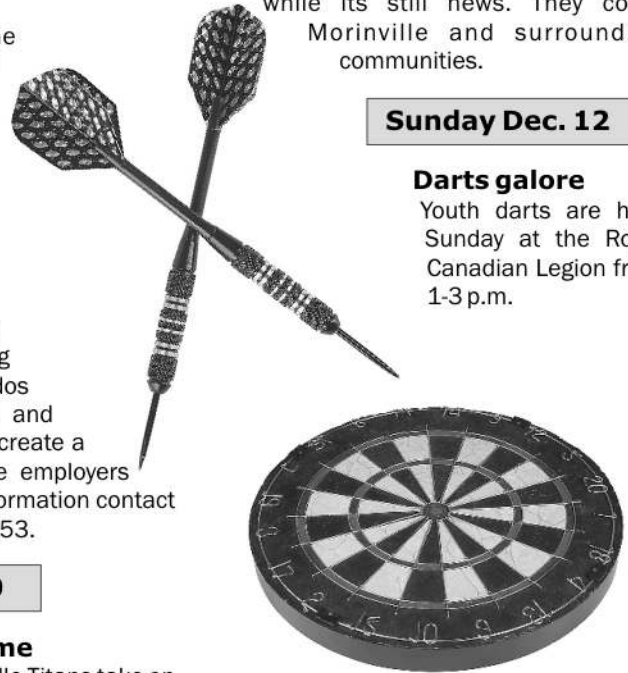
MorinvilleNews.com celebrates its six month anniversary today. If you have not already registered with the site to get your daily news headline e-mail, now is the time to do it. Keep up with what's going on in Morinville with this free daily

online news service. MorinvilleNews.com is dedicated to providing you the news while its still news. They cover Morinville and surrounding communities.

Sunday Dec. 12

Darts galore

Youth darts are held Sunday at the Royal Canadian Legion from 1-3 p.m.



Attention Morinville Community Groups

If you would like your non-profit community group event included in our weekly calendar, send the info to editor@morinvillenews.com.

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MORINVILLE'S Monday Morning Pets To Adopt



Meet Sly and Betty

Sly (left) and Betty (right) are part of the Morinville Veterinary Clinic's Barn / Shop Cat Program. The program currently has approximately 10 cats ready for adoption. These cats are animals that may not be suitable for an indoor environment.

They have all been spayed / neutered, felv/flv tested, vaccinated, de-wormed and micro-chipped.

In lieu of regular adoption fees, a donation to the clinic's stray fund is encouraged.

Call the clinic at 780-939-3133 any day of the week or weekend to find out more about Sly and Betty or the program in general.



The Morinville Veterinary Clinic has many animals for adoption by families looking to give them a good and loving home.

THE SPACE FOR THIS FEATURE HAS BEEN DONATED BY ART OF CONVERSATION

TIRECRAFT

Matthew Schlachter
General Manager

Box 3146
Morinville, Alberta
T8R 1S2
West of Morinville overpass 1/4 mile

Ph: 780 939 3188
Fax: 780 939 7197
Cell: 780 818 5287
E-Mail: schlock88@hotmail.com

MORINVILLE'S Monday Morning Answer



Did you guess the location?

Our spinning wheel is part of an Old Time Christmas display at the Musée Morinville Museum.



Matthew Schlachter
General Manager

Cell: 780 818 5287
E-Mail: schlock88@hotmail.com



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MORINVILLE
Monday Morning Sports

This Week In Sports



As of Dec. 1, 2010 the team leaders are as follows:

Monday Men's

Gary Van Brabant

Tuesday Mixed

Jules Germaine

Wednesday Ladies

Vera Neveu

Thursday Seniors

Every One

Thursday Men's

Mitch Stolarchuck & Jim Slade

Friday Mixed

Jack Olsen

Game Of The Week

To Watch

Monday Dec. 6 - Gerry Gaetz
Vs. Gary Vanbrabant
(lots of High Hard Hits).



Dec. 8 Road Game
Edmonton Mustangs
Bill Hunt 8 p.m.

Dec. 11- Home Game
Stony Plain Flyers
Ray McDonald 2 p.m.



Morinville Warriors

Dec. 11 Home Game
Ft. Sask. Rangers
Legal Arena 7:30 p.m.



Dec. 10 Home Game
Wabamun Wings
Morinville 7:30 p.m.



**Capital Junior
Hockey League**

Morinville Jets
10-9-3 record
4th spot in West Division
7th spot in league overall

As of Dec. 4



**Noralta Junior
Hockey League**

Morinville Titans
11-2-3 record
1st place in league
overall

As of Dec. 4

KAMHL

**Northern Alberta
Midget Hockey League**

Morinville Warriors
1-9-0 record
7th spot in West Blue
Tied for 2nd last place overall

As of Dec. 4



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MORINVILLE'S Monday Morning Business Profile

A passion for his art

As a young man Richard Gibeau developed a love and talent for woodworking. It wasn't until he got a picture framed at a framing shop and decided to try it himself that his woodworking would turn a new corner and lead to a life-long career.

Almost a quarter century later that love is still alive, allowing Gibeau, through his Custom Design Framing business on 100 Street, to take people's photographic memories and memorabilia and transform them into artistically and creatively showcased items.

What allows Gibeau to keep customers returning to his shop is the simple philosophy and the passion he brings to his work. "I've always kept up," he said. "I've continued to stay up with what's new, what's current. I want to lead not fall behind."

Creative Design Framing offers an affordable alternative to the prefab framing one would buy at the big box stores.

"What we can offer is the custom aspect," Gibeau said, adding custom framing is unlike any other field. "A lot of people can buy, shop and be happy with non-custom clothing. They can buy off the rack. But in the framing



Richard Gibeau reaches for one of 1,400 moulding samples in his Creative Design Framing shop.

industry it kind of isolates itself as one of the surviving industries where custom is still well worth the extra money."

With 1,400 types of mouldings hanging on display for customers to choose from, Gibeau and his company are truly able to offer clients a custom experience.

"I've had many customers tell me after they get one picture custom-framed, they really see a huge difference in that and their non custom-framed items in their homes," he said.

Many items brought in by customers already carry a strong sentimental attachment and the custom framing only adds to the

importance of the item. Gibeau makes the framing experience an easy one.

"We don't want customers to come through the door and feel like it's their job to provide a design," he said. "We have to take the lead. Normally in my store if someone brings a product in, immediately we put them at ease about that process. We'll give you ideas and then pull at their taste so that we can try and make it a marriage of what they feel and like and what we can bring as far as design experience."

In addition to the custom framing, Gibeau's shop also has a gallery of originals and signed and numbered limited edition prints.

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